

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to be in the form as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of providing multimedia services to digital television receiving apparatus characterized ~~characterised~~ by the steps of: [-]

providing to the receiving apparatus advance information related to the scheduled broadcast time of material to be broadcast;

causing the receiving apparatus to connect in advance of the scheduled broadcast time to receive multimedia material related to the material to be broadcast from a source of such multimedia material;

providing the receiving apparatus with the capability to perform internet searches for information related to the material to be broadcast; and

causing that material to be cached.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 and further comprising the step of providing an indication during broadcast of the said material to be broadcast that additional multimedia material is available.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 2 wherein the indication is visual.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 in which the material to be broadcast is a scheduled television program ~~programme~~ or an advertisement to be broadcast during a scheduled program ~~programme~~ and the advance information is provided to the receiving apparatus by an electronic program ~~programme~~ guide facility.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 in which the material to be broadcast is a television program ~~programme~~ or an advertisement and the advance information is provided to the receiving apparatus by a broadcaster.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 in which the advance information relates to a pre-determined number of the viewer's ~~favourite~~ favorite programs

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~~programmes.~~

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the multimedia material is received via the Internet and in which the availability of multi-media material is indicated by a URL.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7 and further comprising the step of providing an indication during broadcast of the said material to be broadcast that additional multimedia material is available, wherein said URL is inserted into a broadcast stream to determine when said indication is to be provided to the viewer.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 in which the multi-media material is viewable simultaneously with the broadcast ~~program programme~~ or advertisement by means of a split screen or screen insert.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein received and cached multimedia material related to the material to be broadcast is time-locked so as to be available to a viewer only at certain times.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving apparatus has a set-top-box facility.

Claim 12 (currently amended): Digital television receiving apparatus comprising:
interface means for connecting to an information resource; and
storage means, characterized ~~characterised~~ in that the receiving apparatus is configured to receive in advance information related to the scheduled broadcast time of material to be broadcast and to connect via the interface means to the information resource in advance of the scheduled broadcast time to receive multimedia material from the information resource related to the material to be broadcast and to cache said received multimedia material in the storage means; and

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an internet search mechanism operatively coupled to the receiving apparatus that capable of performing internet searches for information related to the material to be broadcast.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The receiving apparatus of claim 12 and further comprising an electronic program programme guide, wherein the material to be broadcast is a scheduled television program programme or an advertisement to be broadcast during a scheduled program programme and the advance information is provided to the receiving apparatus by the electronic program programme guide.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The receiving apparatus of claim 12 and further comprising an electronic program programme guide arranged to store information relating to forthcoming programs programmes, the guide being further arranged to initiate the receiving apparatus to search one or more information resource for programme program-related material.

Claim 15 (original): The receiving apparatus of claim 12 wherein the digital television apparatus is in the form of a set-top-box and further includes an output for providing an output signal to an output display means.

Claim 16 (original): The receiving apparatus of claim 12 wherein the information resource is Internet based.